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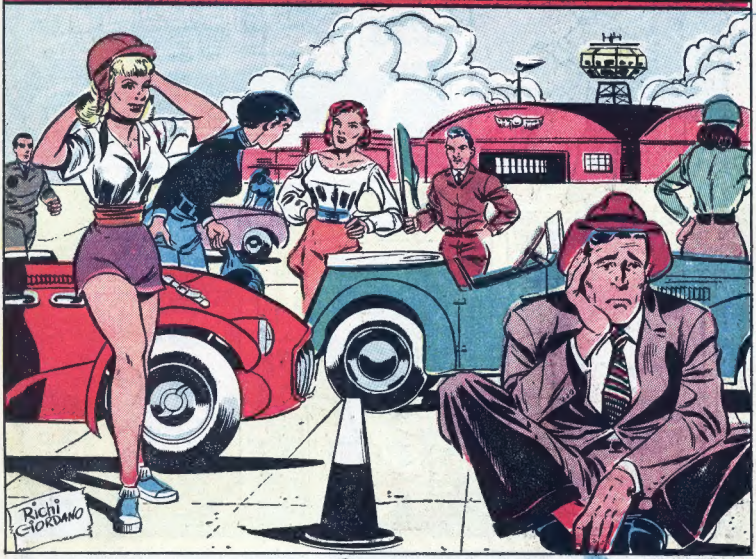
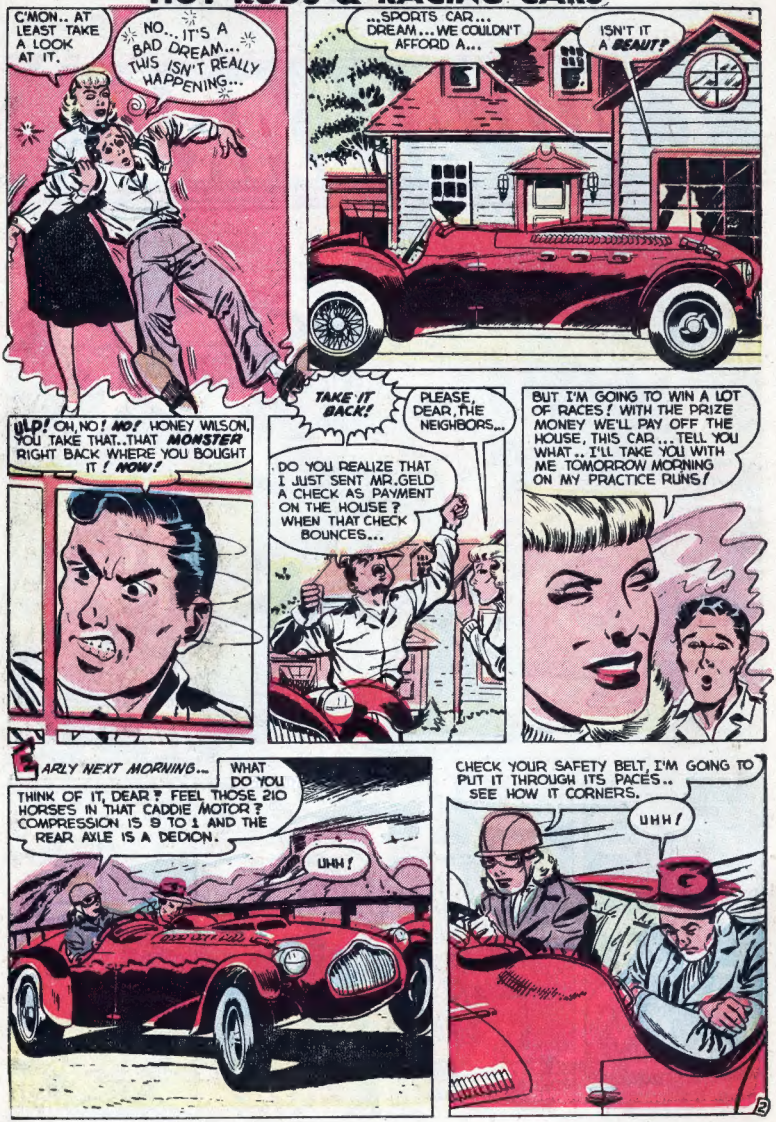
HOT RODS & RACING CARS

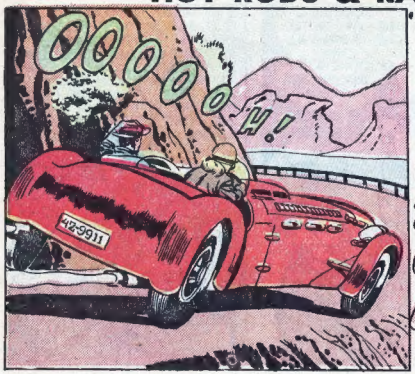
PROBLEM: IN THE PICTURE BELOW, FIND THE MAN WHOSE WIFE HAS JUST INVESTED HIS LAST HARD-EARNED PENNY ON A DOWN PAYMENT FOR A...

CAD-ALLARD

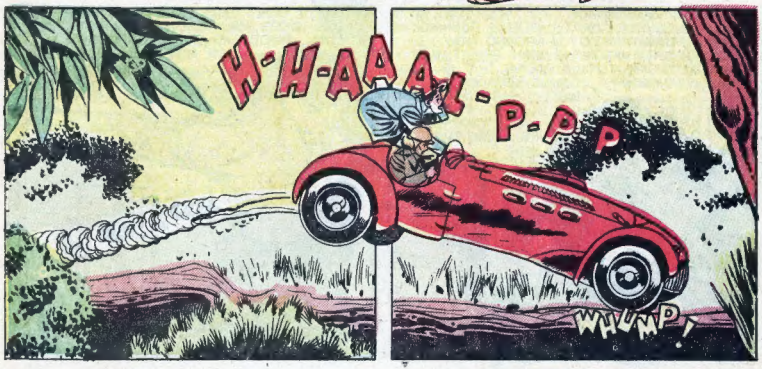


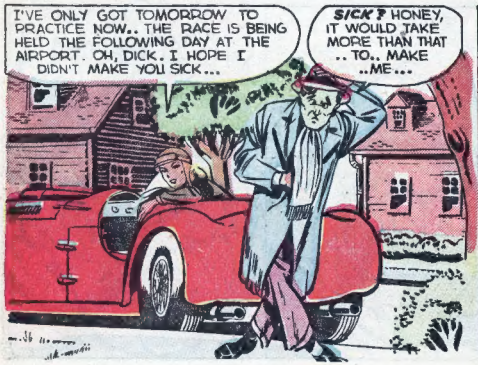
HOT RODS & RACING CARS


C'MON.. AT LEAST TAKE A LOOK AT IT.
NO... IT'S A BAD DREAM... THIS ISN'T REALLY HAPPENING...
...SPORTS CAR... DREAM... WE COULDN'T AFFORD A...
ISN'T IT A BEAUT?
ULP! OH, NO! NO! HONEY WILSON, YOU TAKE THAT..THAT MONSTER RIGHT BACK WHERE YOU BOUGHT IT! NOW!
TAKE IT BACK!
PLEASE, DEAR, THE NEIGHBORS...
DO YOU REALIZE THAT I JUST SENT MR. GELD A CHECK AS PAYMENT ON THE HOUSE? WHEN THAT CHECK BOUNCES...
BUT I'M GOING TO WIN A LOT OF RACES! WITH THE PRIZE MONEY WE'LL PAY OFF THE HOUSE, THIS CAR... TELL YOU WHAT.. I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME TOMORROW MORNING ON MY PRACTICE RUNS!
EARLY NEXT MORNING...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT, DEAR? FEEL THOSE 210 HORSES IN THAT CADDIE MOTOR? COMPRESSION IS 9 TO 1 AND THE REAR AXLE IS A DEDION.
UHH!
CHECK YOUR SAFETY BELT, I'M GOING TO PUT IT THROUGH ITS PACES.. SEE HOW IT CORNERS.
UHH!


OOOOH!
42-9911

WHOOEEEE


H-H-AAA-L-P-P-P
WHUMP!


I'VE ONLY GOT TOMORROW TO PRACTICE NOW.. THE RACE IS BEING HELD THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE AIRPORT. OH, DICK. I HOPE I DIDN'T MAKE YOU SICK...
SICK? HONEY, IT WOULD TAKE MORE THAN THAT .. TO.. MAKE ..ME...

DICK!
FLUMP!

NEXT MORNING...
R. WILSON
DONK! DONK!
NO! WE DON'T WANT... OH, MR. GELD! AH.. URP .. ER.. WON'T YOU COME IN?
WHAT I HAVE TO SAY WILL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE, MR. WILSON!
JUST WHAT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR, WILSON? IF IT WEREN'T BECAUSE THIS IS YOUR LAST PAYMENT ON THE HOUSE I'D HAVE YOU THROWN IN JAIL FOR PASSING ME THAT BUM CHECK!
NOW TAKE IT EASY, MR. GELD. I'LL.. I'LL HAVE THAT MONEY FOR YOU.. TOMORROW MORNING!
TOMORROW MORNING? WHY.. IF EVERYBODY DID BUSINESS LIKE THAT I'D ..I'D... EXACTLY WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL, MR. WILSON?
ER... YOU SEE.. MY WIFE IS RUNNING AROUND NOW.. I MEAN.. PRACTICING RACING THAT IS.. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.. YOU JUST GET BACK TO YOUR CAR AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU RIGHT AWAY...
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR WIFE DOES, MR. WILSON! YOUR PERSONAL PROBLEMS ARE NO BUSINESS OF MINE!
IF YOU'RE NOT MAN ENOUGH TO..
VRRRR
..TO.. TO...
VR-R-R-R-R
VR-R-R-R-R

YEE-OWLP!
VRROOOM!

SO THIS IS HOW YOU WERE GOING TO TAKE CARE OF ME RIGHT AWAY! ATTEMPTED MURDER! THAT'S WHAT IT IS! I'LL HAVE MY LAWYERS AND THE WHOLE POLICE FORCE ON YOU FOR THIS! I'LL FIX YOU, MR. WILSON!

THE WILSONS PULLED DOWN THE SHADES AND REFRAINED FROM ANSWERING THE DOOR OR THE PHONE FOR THE REST OF THAT DAY. THEN, AS THE CURTAIN OF NIGHT PARTER...

WONDER WHAT IT'LL BE LIKE RAISING OUR CHILDREN IN A TENT...
YOU HAVE A TRUE PIONEER'S OUTLOOK, DARLING! DRINK YOUR COFFEE AND LET'S GET GOING. TODAY YOUR WIFE IS GOING TO MAKE LIKE A FEMALE NUVOLARI AT THE LOCAL AIRPORT!

IN THE NICK OF TIME! THEY'RE CALLING THE WOMEN'S EVENT NOW. I'LL JUST ABOUT HAVE TIME FOR CLEARANCE BEFORE FALLING IN FOR THE LINE UP.
NO FLIG
SPORTS CA
main eve
WOMEN'S

MONEY HELD NO. 5 POSITION IN THE LINE UP BEFORE THE GREEN FLAG KICKED THEM OFF... THREE LAPS LATER SHE HAD SNAKED UP TO NO. 2 SPOT...

MEANWHILE...
HUH?
THERE HE IS! CHARGE! SURROUND HIM!

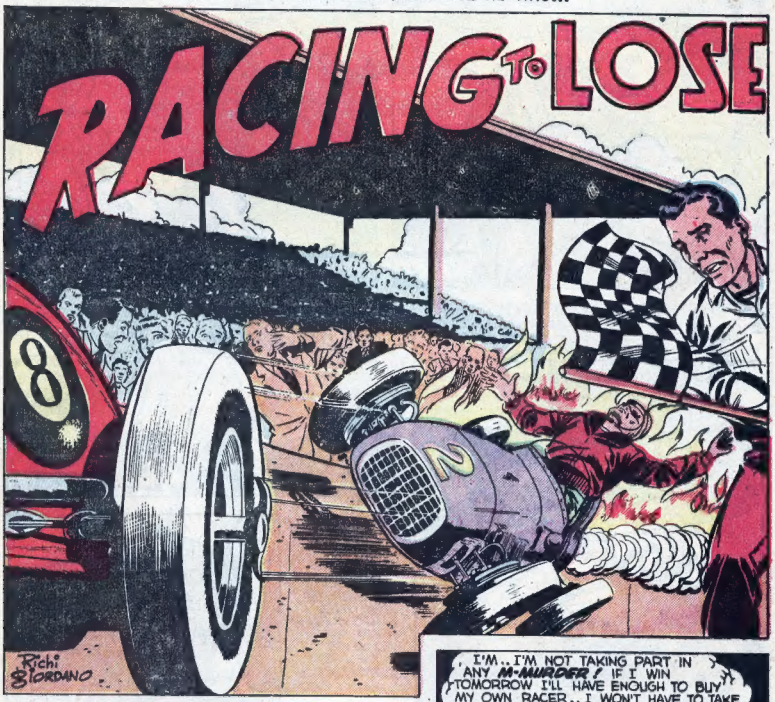
HOT RODS & RACING CARS

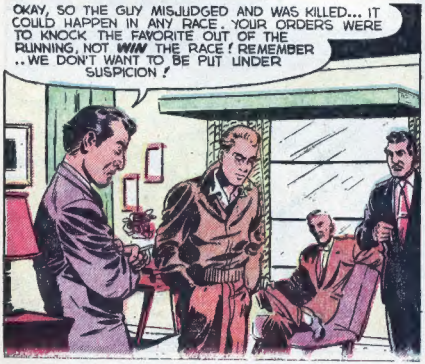
HONEY HAS TO SLOW DOWN FOR THE TURN AHEAD.. I'LL JUMP IN AND.. PUFF.. WE'LL BOTH HEAD FOR CALIFORNIA!
CAPTURE HIM! SHOOT HIM!
IT'LL BE THE CALABOOSE IF THEY CATCH US! HEAD FOR THE GATE, HONEY!
GATE NOTHING! I'M IN FIRST PLACE NOW.. I'M NOT THROWING THIS RACE! THIS IS THE LAST LAP!
HAVING COMPLETED THE CIRCUIT, AND IN THE HOME STRETCH NOW, THE HUNTED BECAME THE HUNTER... AND MR. GELD TURNED TO SEE THE ALLARD SCREAMING DOWN ON HIM..
N-NOW W-WAIT A S-SECOND, WILSON! I..I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
HE CERTAINLY MESSED ME UP ON MY TIMING.. I MIGHT HAVE ESTABLISHED A RECORD IF I HADN'T HAD TO SLOW DOWN FOR HIM!
...AND YOU DROVE A VERY EXCITING RACE, MRS. WILSON. HERE IS YOUR TROPHY AND PRIZE MONEY.
I'VE SIGNED THIS CHECK OVER TO YOU, MR. GELD. THE HOUSE IS NOW OURS.
..PUFF.. PUFF.. I NEVER.. PUFF.. DOUBTED YOU WONDERFUL PEOPLE FOR.. PUFF.. ONE MOMENT!
YES, SIR. FROM THE MINUTE I LAID EYES ON THAT CAR I KNEW IT WAS WHAT WE'D ALWAYS WANTED!
THE END

SEVENTEEN YEAR OLD MICKEY LANE WANTED TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY HIS OWN MIDGET RACER, SO HE PASSED HIMSELF OFF AS BEING TWENTY-ONE TO GAMBLER MACK GARDNER. UNDER GARDNER'S SPONSORSHIP AND INSTRUCTIONS, MICKEY COMPETED IN THE WEEK-END RACES ... BUT IT WASN'T WHAT HE'D DREAMED ABOUT, BECAUSE HE WAS...

RACING TO LOSE

Richi Giordano




OKAY, SO THE GUY MISJUDGED AND WAS KILLED... IT COULD HAPPEN IN ANY RACE. YOUR ORDERS WERE TO KNOCK THE FAVORITE OUT OF THE RUNNING, NOT WIN THE RACE! REMEMBER .. WE DON'T WANT TO BE PUT UNDER SUSPICION!

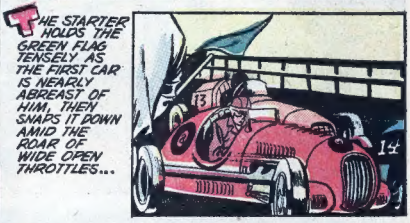
I'M .. I'M NOT TAKING PART IN ANY M-MURDER! IF I WIN TOMORROW I'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO BUY MY OWN RACER .. I WON'T HAVE TO TAKE ANY OF GARDNER'S CHEAP HANDOUTS! THEN POP CAN RETIRE .. YEAH .. I'LL TELL MACK OFF TOMORROW!

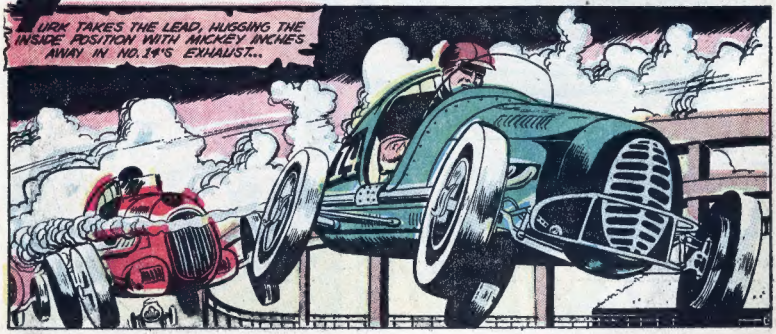
NEXT DAY...
OKAY, KID. IT'S UP TO YOU NOW! WE'VE GOT OVER THIRTY THOUSAND IN BETS THAT TURK PEARSON, THE FAVORITE WON'T WIN! MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T!
MR. GARDNER, I...
GET GOIN', KID, THEY'RE ROLLIN' 'EM OUT.

YOU'D BETTER GO BACK TO YOUR MAMA, SONNY BOY. THIS IS A MAN'S GAME!
..REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU START EATING MY DUST, BUSTER!
8
14

A COUPLE OF STRAGGLERS HOLD UP THE GO SIGNAL AND THE STARTER LETS THE GROUP CIRCLE THE TRACK AGAIN FOR THE LINE-UP...

THE NAME'S TURK PEARSON, KID.. AND I'M WARNIN' YOU RIGHT NOW.. KEEP OUT O' MY WAY!
I'M SHAKING IN MY BOOTS, MR. PEARSON!


THE STARTER HOLDS THE GREEN FLAG TENSELY AS THE FIRST CAR IS NEARLY ABREAST OF HIM, THEN SMARS IT DOWN AMID THE ROAR OF WIDE OPEN THROTTLES...
13
14

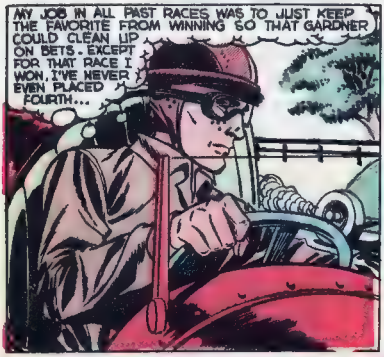

TURK TAKES THE LEAD, HUGGING THE INSIDE POSITION WITH MICKEY INCHES AWAY IN NO. 14'S EXHAUST...
14

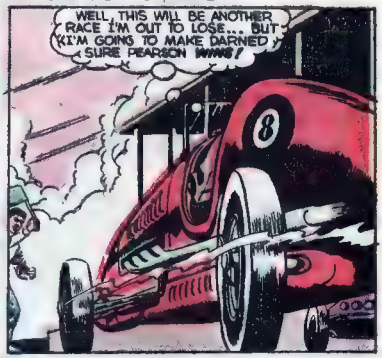
I'LL SLOW DOWN ON THIS TURN SO THAT I CAN CUT IN ON HIS INSIDE. I'LL WIN THIS RA... AW! IT'S STARTING TO RAIN!
THE RAIN STARTED TO COME DOWN HEAVIER AND FASTER.. THEN THE RED FLAG WENT UP, STOPPING ALL THE ACTION ON THE CIRCUIT...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE RACE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT.. SO IF YOU WILL... PLEASE FILE OUT TO THE BOX OFFICE WHERE YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR RAIN CHECKS. WE REGRET
I SAW WHAT YOU WERE GOIN' TO TRY, KID.. AN' LET ME TELL YOU, I WOULD'VE SPUN YOU OUT FASTER THAN A LIGHT SWITCH! JUST GIVE ME A CLEAR ROAD UNLESS YOU WANT TO WIND UP IN A HEAP TOMORROW!
IF YOU WANT TO PLAY DIRTY IT'S OKAY WITH ME, PEARSON!
LOCKE
LATER...
LISTEN, MICKEY, IF YOU'D KNOCKED TURK OUT RIGHT IN THE BEGINNING WE WOULD HAVE CLEANED UP TONIGHT AND AGAIN TOMORROW!
MR. GARDNER, I...I'M QUITING!
WHAT?

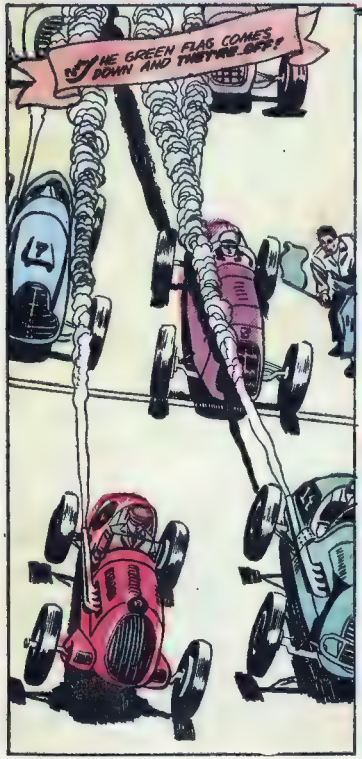
HOT RODS & RACING CARS

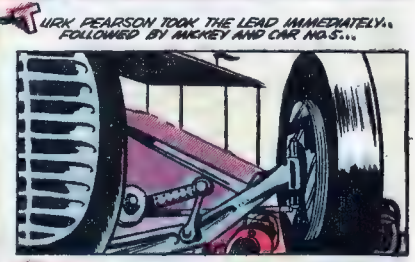
NOW, TAKE IT EASY, MICKEY... YOU WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE A PICTURE OF HOW YOU BUMPED A GUY TO HIS DEATH, WOULD YOU?
WE GOT A LOT OF DOUGH RIDIN' ON YA, KID. MAYBE YA NEED A LITTLE CONVINCIN'...
A RUBBER HOSE DOESN'T LEAVE MARKS, BUT IT CHANGES A GUY'S MIND REAL FAST!
THAT'S ENOUGH, CHUCK. I THINK HE'LL SEE IT OUR WAY NOW.
WHAM
WHAM
OOH! MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN THROUGH A WRINGER! SO GARDNER BET EVERYTHING HE AND HIS BOYS HAD ON TOMORROW'S RACE... IT WOULD REALLY BREAK HIM IF... TURK WON ...WELL, THIS IS WHERE I EVEN THE SCORE!
IT WAS A SORE FACED MICKEY THAT WAS PUSHED TO THE LINE-UP OF THE LAST RACE THE FOLLOWING EVENING.. HIS FACE ACHING SO THAT HE COULD HARDLY TALK. BUT HE WAS ALSO DETERMINED..

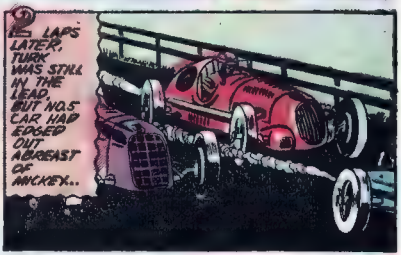
HOT RODS & RACING CARS


MY JOB IN ALL PAST RACES WAS TO JUST KEEP THE FAVORITE FROM WINNING SO THAT GARDNER COULD CLEAN UP ON BETS - EXCEPT FOR THAT RACE I WON, I'VE NEVER EVEN PLACED - FOURTH...

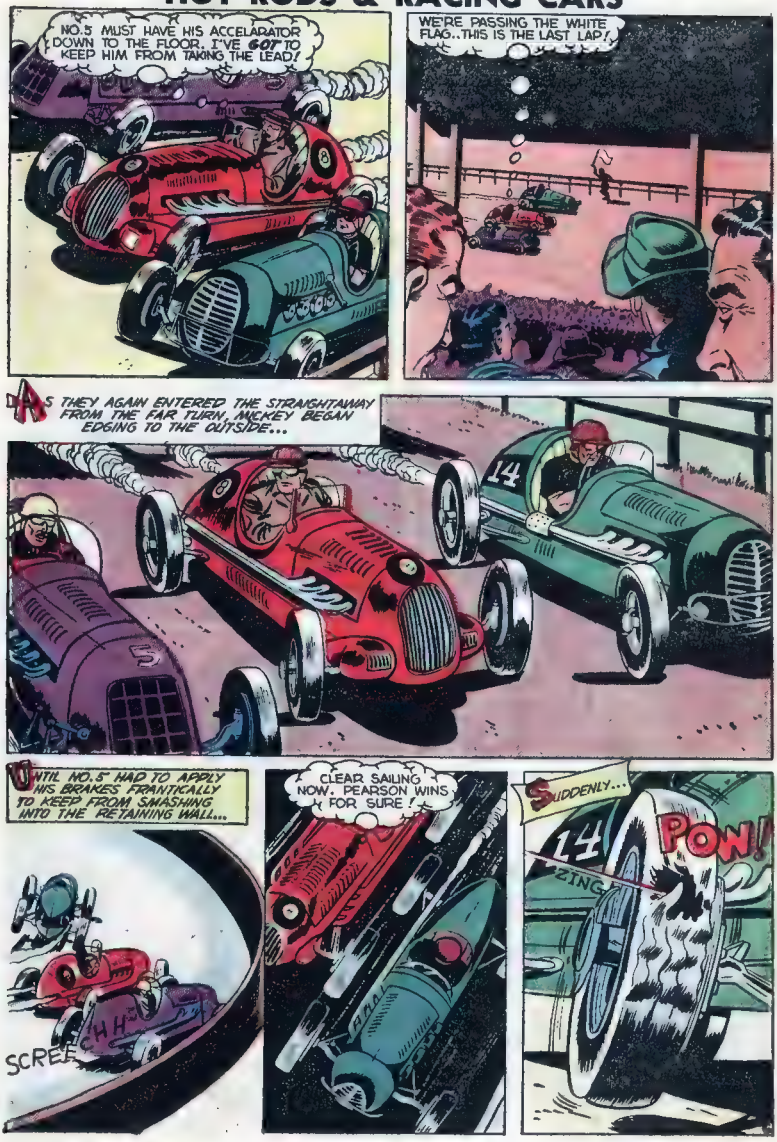








HOT RODS & RACING CARS


NO.5 MUST HAVE HIS ACCELERATOR DOWN TO THE FLOOR. I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM FROM TAKING THE LEAD!
WE'RE PASSING THE WHITE FLAG..THIS IS THE LAST LAP!
AS THEY AGAIN ENTERED THE STRAIGHTAWAY FROM THE FAR TURN, MICKEY BEGAN EDGING TO THE OUTSIDE...
14
UNTIL NO.5 HAD TO APPLY HIS BRAKES FRANTICALLY TO KEEP FROM SMASHING INTO THE RETAINING WALL...
SCREECH H
CLEAR SAILING NOW. PEARSON WINS FOR SURE!
SUDDENLY...
14
POW!
ZING

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

MICKEY SAW TURK'S TIRE BLOW AND QUICKLY JAMMED HIS FRONT LEFT WHEEL AGAINST NO.14'S AXLE TO OVERCOME THE SUMMER-SAULTING TENDENCY CAUSED BY THE DEFLATED TIRE...

AND AFTER ROLLING NO.14 OFF THE ASPHALT, IT WAS A SAD MICKEY LANE WHO CIRCLED THE TRACK WITH THE BUNTING...

THIS IS THE PURSE I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SO THAT I COULD BUY MY OWN 'OFFHY,' BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CLEAR OUT *FAST!*...

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SAVED MY LIFE, LANE.. BUT I DID A LITTLE INVESTIGATING ON MY OWN AND FOUND OUT YOU'VE BEEN DRIVING UNDER A FALSIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE!

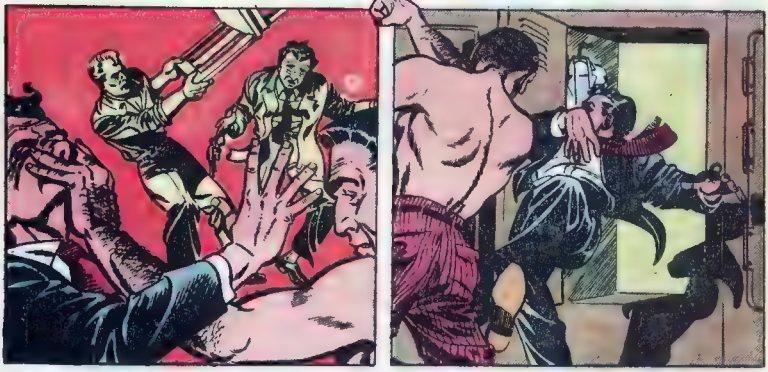
SO?

SO WHEN THE OFFICIALS FIND OUT, YOU'LL BE *DISQUALIFIED*... AND *I'M* THE WINNER OF THE RACE! SORRY, KID.. *SO* SORRY!

THE OFFICIALS REVERSED THE STANDING, LANE! PEARSON IS THE WINNER BECAUSE HE LEAD ALL THE WAY AND IF YOU'D GONE OVER THE FINISH LINE STRAIGHT, TURK WOULD HAVE BEEN AHEAD OF YOU!

CLEAR OUT, PEARSON!

THE KID COULD HARDLY TALK LIKE HE'D BEEN BEAT UP! AN' HE *DID* SAVE MY LIFE! ANYWAY, I DON'T LIKE THAT GUY WITH THE HEATER *AT ALL*...



WE DISCOVERED YOUR TIRE HAD BEEN PIERCED BY A BULLET, MR. PEARSON. AND THAT THREE THUGS HAD BEEN SEEN BY THE AUDIENCE AS ONE TOOK A SHOT AT YOU!

...GENTLEMEN..I'M DISQUALIFYING MYSELF AS WINNER BECAUSE IF IT WEREN'T FOR MICKEY CARRYING ME ACROSS THE FINISH LINE, I WOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE NOW!
YES, BUT I'M NOT OLD ENOUGH TO...

... COMPETE AGAINST US OLD TIMERS? DON'T WORRY, KID. YOU JUST KEEP RIGHT ON RACING..YOU'RE DOIN' GREAT! REALLY GREAT!
THE END

A HOT ROD DICTIONARY IS BORN

"When I was a youngster," reflected Mr. William Anderson rather wistfully, "I wanted to be a railroad engineer. With the other kids in the neighborhood we would go down to the freight yards. And the greatest event was to sit in the cab of the yard engine with old Pete. Once he even let me put my hand on the throttle. But this generation is entirely different from mine. Not only do they dream but they have enough guts to put their dreams into action and turn them into reality. When Frank wanted to form a Hot Rod Club in this town, I was really skeptical. But now they rebuild cars and do wonders. Ah, to be young again!"

"While you decide whether or not you want to be twenty or fifty," snapped back Mrs. Anderson, "I have a tough problem for you to solve. The refrigerator has been raided again. Half of that spring chicken is missing. And so is a portion of mince pie. Are you guilty?"

There was a hurt look on Mr. Anderson's face and his wife at once realized her hubby was completely innocent. That meant that the culprit had to be Frank.

"Guess our son takes a bite down to the warehouse when he works on his car.Wish he would ask me first. Sort of upsets my plans for tomorrow's meal."

Mr. Herbert Levin, of the Carl Levin Transportation Company, permitted the Hot Rod Club of Hightstown to use his old freight warehouse as their meeting place and garage for their cars. Just now, Frank Anderson was studying the masterpiece produced by Slim Stevens.

"She was born a '34 Ford," explained Slim for the log, "and it has been chopped 4 inches, channeled 5½ inches, with a '48 Mercury engine; 4:11 rear end; '41 Ford hydraulics; 600 x 16 rear tires; chrome front fenders; and '30 Cadillac spare tire covers cut to fit. Nice job."

"Then permit me to utter additional words of praise," added the voice of Pop Benigan. "I shall put everything down in the log and be a good secretary at tonight's meeting."

It seemed that one evening, from nowhere, a figure in overalls had appeared at the old freight warehouse. The man's age was indeterminate. His hair was graying and he had a short beard. He made a bargain with the boys.

"I'll watch this place while you are away. Take down your records for you. Help you in your rebuilding jobs. All I want is a place to sleep and some food."

So the boys "hired" Pop. It was agreed that each member of the Hot Rod Club would take turns in raiding the kitchen and that was the great puzzle facing the mothers of Hightstown. How and when did food vanish from kitchens, refrigerators, and freezers?

The meeting of the Hot Rod Club was called to order and the boys gave their various reports.

"About that Jowett Jupiter sports car," began Teddy Cave. "I find that it made its first appearance in the spring of 1950 at the British Automobile Show held in Grand Central Palace, New York. Here are the statistics on her: Wheelbase 93 inches; track front —51 inches; rear —49 inches; tires —5.50 x 16; weight —2100 pounds; turning circle —31 feet; capacity —1486cc.; compression —8.1; and performance —0 to 60, 16.5 seconds. It will hold the roads at 80 mph like running on rails. My uncle is thinking of buying one as soon as he gets his hand on some cold cash."

"Yesterday I went over to pay a visit to the Hot Rod Club of Center Moriches," said Tony Argonto. "Jerry Lurie bought one of those plastic body kits. I know you fellows want the low down on it. In terms of weight, the sports car that Jerry built weighs 1050 pounds. That makes it 400 pounds less than the Crosley station wagon from which it was built. With lowered chassis, the car stands 31 inches high at cowl. Plywood panels were installed as flooring. Then molded-plastic wheel housings were bolted to the trunk-compartment floor. The radiator was lowered six inches and was bolted with a strap-iron bracket welded to the new body-support bracket. The engine, transmission and axles were left in their original position. Jerry deserves credit for the neat job he has turned out."

"I got the final report for this evening," said David Dolmetch. "I contacted the other five Hot Rod Clubs in this county about the words for the Hot Rod Dictionary. BALDY: A tire from which the treads have worn away, leaving the carcass as smooth as a hairless man's head. CHANNEL: To modify the body so that it can be dropped below the frame. DOG CLUTCH: A positive clutch that is either fully engaged or completely disengaged. It cannot slip. It is used only in racing. FRENCHING: A form of molding by which headlamp rims are smoothed into the fender line. The rims are usually eliminated. Next week I'll have more from the different clubs. Good idea that we have uniformity in our terms."

Frank Anderson closed the meeting and then announced that the arrangements had been made for the dragmeet to be held on Saturday on field seven of the airport.

"I think we fellows owe Pop a lot. So I'm going to let him race in my car at the meet. Just to see how he makes out. And now if you fellows don't mind, the meeting is over. Anyone who wants to work on his car can stay for an extra hour. My girl is waiting for me outside and she says it is important."

Ethel McCaffrey wasn't the kind of a girl to conceal her feelings. One look at her face as Frank drove his car along the highway told him something was wrong. He stopped when they came to Point Lookout, which was the highest point on the road.

"Something is bothering you Ethel and I know it. You sounded awful mysterious over the phone. If you are mad because I want to stick to automotives as a future, there is little I can do about it."

"When a girl loves a fellow," replied Ethel, "she makes up her mind that what makes him happy will make her happy. You may not make that million in cars, but then I'll be an economical housewife."

When a girl makes a statement like that there is only one sensible thing to do. And Frank did it. He kissed Ethel and forgot that the rest of the world existed. However, minutes later, Ethel opened up her purse and handed her boy friend a picture.

"I went to the Post Office yesterday to mail a package to my Aunt Miriam in Chicago," she explained. "I saw this 'wanted' notice and asked if I might have it. Look carefully at the picture of the man on it. Doesn't he look just like Pop Benigan? And he's wanted for burglary, counterfeiting, kidnapping and murder. What do we do?"

Frank took the notice from Ethel and studied it carefully. He couldn't believe what his eyes told him was true.

"Could be that there are two people who look alike. I guess we'll have to play safe and notify the Chief of Police. But I think we should let Pop race my car."

Field Seven of the airport was crowded. There had been a rumor in the air that something unusual was going to happen. Chief of Police John Rutherford was there with about a dozen of his men and several patrol cars were on the highway.

"I've had my eye on him since the day he landed in this town," was what the police official had told Frank. "Thanks a lot for notifying me. You're a good citizen."

The boys raced their cars and there was excitement when Pop raced in Frank's car. He handled it like an expert. When the meet was all over, the members of the Hot Rod Club lined up against the administration building. Chief of Police John Rutherford escorted Pop over to Frank and Ethel.

"He has to return," said the police official "and there is something you both should know. After all, he is my own brother-in-law and I am responsible for his safety. Meet Professor Walter Benigan, head of the State Automotive Research Bureau and dean of the newly founded School of Automotive Work at the State University. He has something to say to you."

"I was working on a project of writing a Dictionary of hot rod terms," explained the man once known as Pop. "And you boys certainly helped me get the material for it. Frank, you can come to the university on a scholarship and continue your work on Hot Rods." And then he looked at the girl holding Frank's hand.

"I'm certain we can find a job for little Ethel either in the library or as my assistant so that you two can be together. But stay out of Post Offices. Do I really look like Horace Russel, the man on that picture?"

And at that moment, there wasn't the slightest resemblance. But then who cared? Everyone was happy.

The End

CHUBBY GLYNN, A LOCAL HOT RODDER, ALWAYS HAD AS HIS UPPERMOST THOUGHTS SAFETY, POWER AND EFFICIENCY WHERE A CAR WAS CONCERNED... BUT HE TURNED SQUEAMISH WHEN IT CAME TO DRIVING ANY FASTER THAN 40. NOW HE'D BEEN FORCED INTO A ROAD RACE..AND CHUBBY GLYNN WAS...

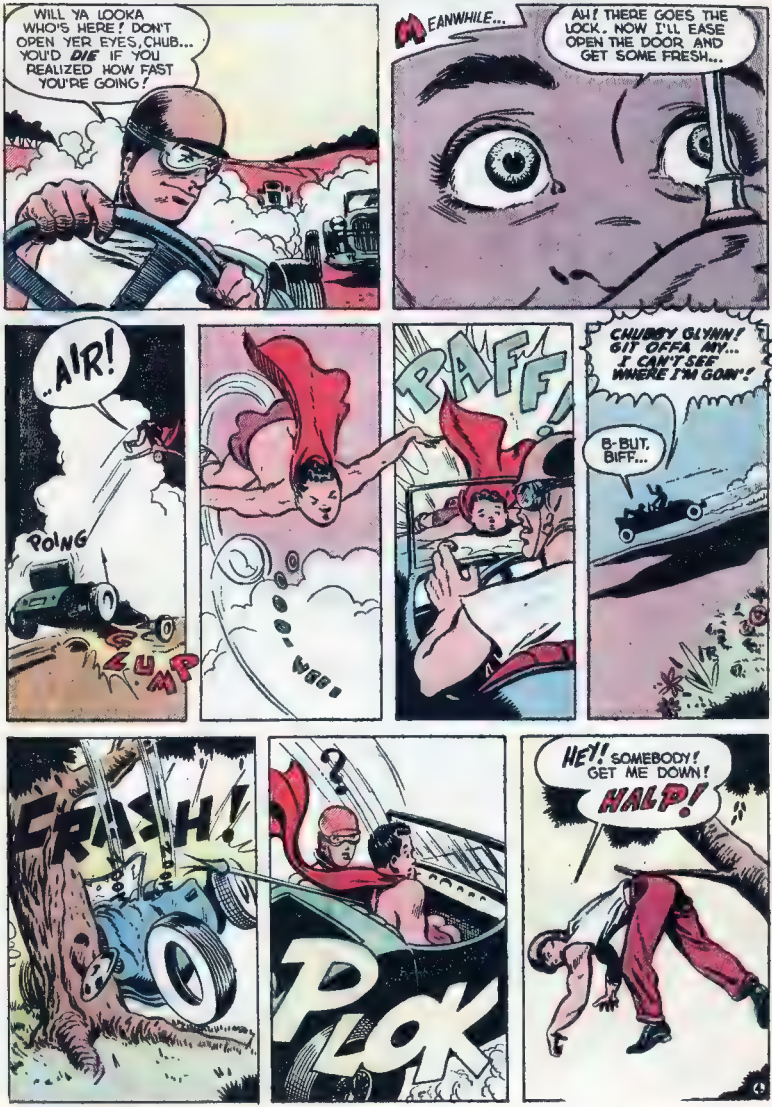
AFRAID of SPEED

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO, FRAN? THE RACE IS TOMORROW.. SUNDAY AFTERNOON! AND THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GET OUT OF IT!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA, CHUB! I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF LIKE YOU AND TAKE YOUR PLACE!
...IF...
WOULD YOU? SWELL! BUT.. BUT WHAT'S THE IF?
MY PROJECT FOR CERAMICS CLASS IS A ROMAN WARRIOR. SO IF YOU POSE FOR ME TOMORROW MORNING, I'LL RACE FOR YOU IN THE AFTERNOON!
WHAT? POSE.. AS A ROMAN WARRIOR? WITH A SPEAR AND SKIRT? ...AND A WREATH ON MY HEAD? NO DEAL! NO NO NO!
MOANE! LAUGH!

NEXT MORNING...
TEN MORE MINUTES AND I'LL BE ALL THROUGH. OOPS! THERE GOES THE FRONT DOOR BELL.
MAKE IT FAST. IT'S NEARLY RACE TIME!
WE SAW CHUBBY GLYNN'S ROD AROUND THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE. THOUGHT WE'D DROP IN AND SEE JUST WHAT POSITION THE WINGED VENUS THINKS HE'LL TAKE IN THE RACE!
COME IN, BIFF. TOMMY. CHUBBY'S IN THE KITCHEN.
TOMMY DUGAN AND.. AND BIFF COLSON! IF BIFF EVER SAW ME IN THIS...
I'LL PERSONALLY GIVE HIM A PAT ON THE BACK IF HE RUNS AT ALL!
HE COULDN'T STAND SEEING ALL THAT AIR RUSHING BY SO FAST!
CHUBBY IS RIGHT IN HERE FELLOWS. AND PLEASE DON'T TEASE HIM!
I'LL LEAVE THIS SPEAR STICKING OUT SO THIS RUMBLE SEAT WON'T LOCK.
HEY! HE'S DISAPPEARED!
HIS CAR IS STILL THERE!
NAW! SIR LAUNCELOT! I SUPPOSE HE USES THIS TO CLEAR THE ROAD WHEN HE CHARGES DOWN AT 15 M.P.H.
YOU'D BETTER STOP RIDING CHUB THE WAY YOU DO, BIFF!
SLAM
IF YOU SEE CHUBBY, YOU'D BETTER TELL HIM TO GET GOING... THE RACE STARTS IN EIGHT MINUTES.. AND IT'LL TAKE HIM A WEEK TO GET THERE!
HMPH!

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

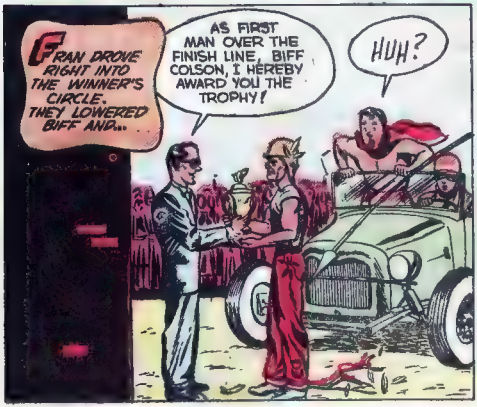
CHUBBY! CHUB!
I WONDER WHERE HE WENT? I'D BETTER GET INTO MY DISGUISE AND GET GOING!
...HIS DUNGAREES ..A LITTLE PADDING...
HIDE MY HAIR..AND I'M OFF!
OH..OH! WE'RE MOVING! FRAN WON'T HEAR ME OVER THOSE STRAIGHT THRU MUFFLERS AND ECHO CANS! I'LL JUST HAVE TO JIMMY THE LOCK FROM THE INSIDE!
HEY! THE STARTER DROPPED THE GREEN FLAG! THEY'RE OFF! I'LL HAVE TO STEP ON IT TO CATCH UP!
TO DAY
HOT ROD
ROAD RACE
TO DAY
THERE'S CHUB! C'MON, BOY!
GET GOING, CHUBBY!
TT ROOOM
VEE-EE
3

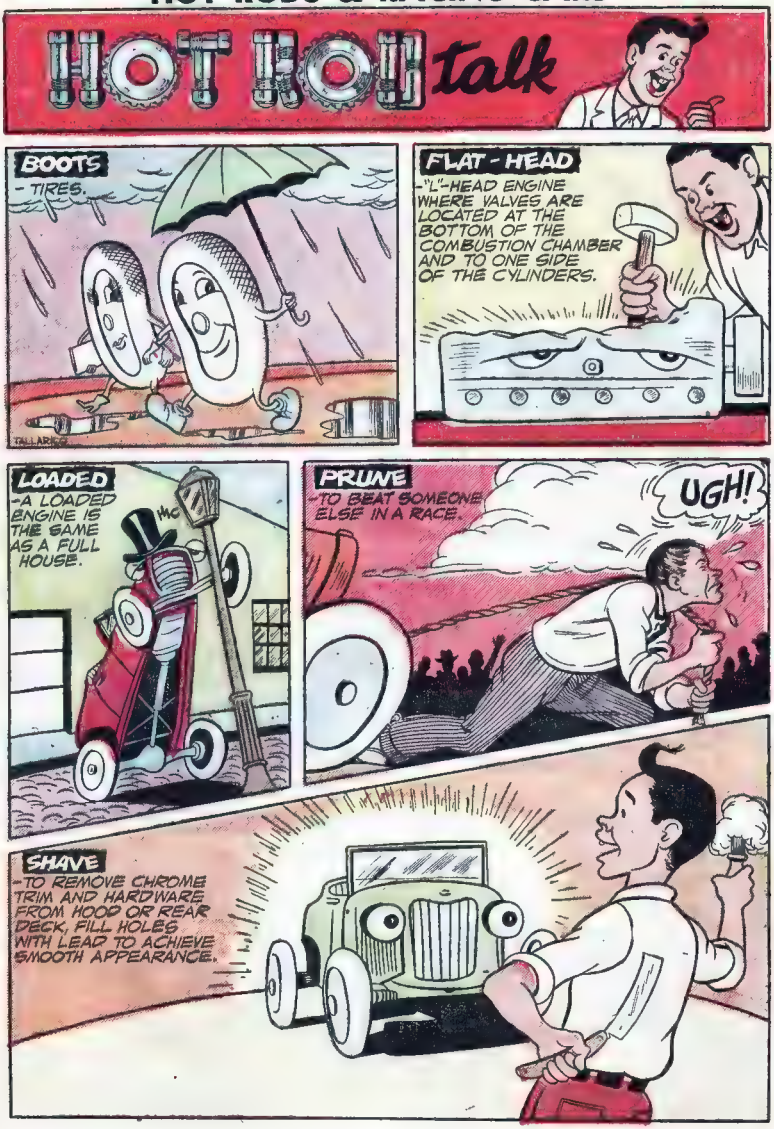

WILL YA LOOKA WHO'S HERE! DON'T OPEN YER EYES, CHUB... YOU'D DIE IF YOU REALIZED HOW FAST YOU'RE GOING!
MEANWHILE...
AH! THERE GOES THE LOCK. NOW I'LL EASE OPEN THE DOOR AND GET SOME FRESH...
..AIR!
POING
GUMP
WEE!
PAFF!
CHUBBY GLYNN! GIT OFFA MY... I CAN'T SEE WHERE I'M GOIN'!
B-BUT, BIFF...
CRASH!
PLOK
HEY! SOMEBODY! GET ME DOWN!
HALP!

FRAN! TURN AROUND! GO BACK!
BUT WE'LL LOSE THE RACE, CHUB!
OH, CHUB... NO! HE MAY HAVE TEASED YOU, BUT...
OH, DEAR! I'LL NEVER STOP IN TIME!
WATCH!
NO! NO! CHUB! I SWEAR I'LL NEVER BOTHER YOU AGAIN! I DON'T WANT TO DIE! I JUST...
YELP!
PUT ME DOWN! PUT ME DOWN!
PUT ME... UNNNHH
HEADS UP, CHUB! WE'RE CUTTING THROUGH FORSTER'S STREAM!
HULB-LUB
GAAAAAAAA
BUGGGGGGGG
CHUB! THOSE TREES! LOWER BIFF!

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

FRAN! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO GO AROUND THE FORSTER'S FARM... NOT THROUGH IT!
WE LOST TIME SAVING BIFF! ANYWAY IT'S THE SAME DISTANCE, ONLY THE ROAD IS SMOOTHER! OOOOH! THAT COW!

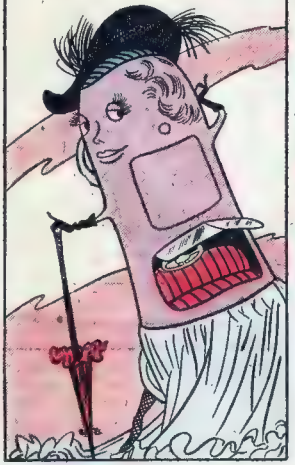

FRAN DROVE RIGHT INTO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE. THEY LOWERED BIFF AND...
AS FIRST MAN OVER THE FINISH LINE, BIFF COLSON, I HEREBY AWARD YOU THE TROPHY!
HUH?


HOT ROD talk
BOOTS
- TIRES.
TALLARICO
FLAT - HEAD
-"L"-HEAD ENGINE WHERE VALVES ARE LOCATED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE COMBUSTION CHAMBER AND TO ONE SIDE OF THE CYLINDERS.
LOADED
-A LOADED ENGINE IS THE SAME AS A FULL HOUSE.
PRUNE
-TO BEAT SOMEONE ELSE IN A RACE.
UGH!
SHAVE
-TO REMOVE CHROME TRIM AND HARDWARE FROM HOOD OR REAR DECK, FILL HOLES WITH LEAD TO ACHIEVE SMOOTH APPEARANCE.

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

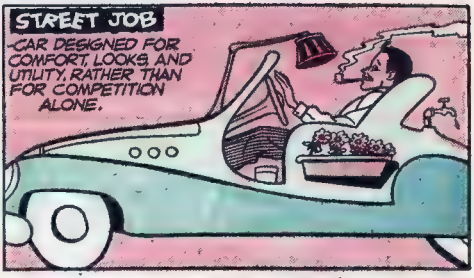
STREAMLINER

-HOT ROD WITH SPECIAL BODY AND COVERED WHEELS.



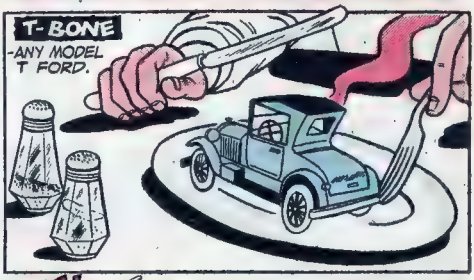
STREET JOB

-CAR DESIGNED FOR COMFORT, LOOKS, AND UTILITY, RATHER THAN FOR COMPETITION ALONE.



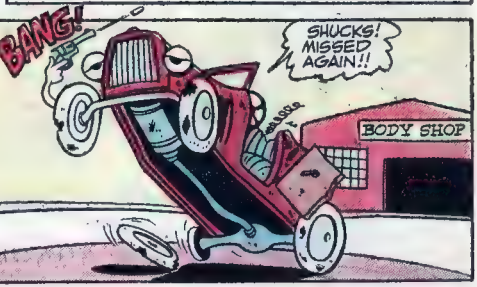
T-BONE

-ANY MODEL T FORD.



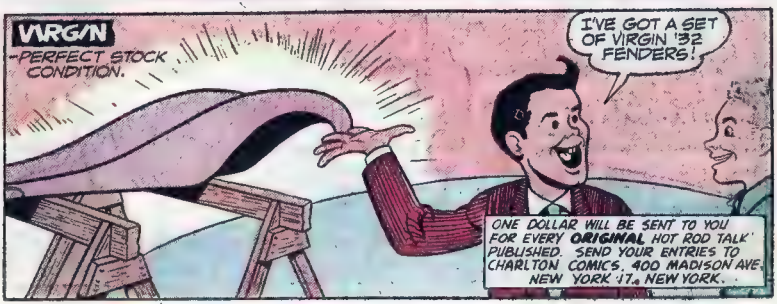
SUICIDE AXLE

-MOUNTED AHEAD OF THE FRAME RAILS, WHICH HAVE BEEN CHOPPED OFF AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE. TRANSVERSE LEAF SPRING IS MOUNTED ON A BRACKET WHICH IS WELDED TO AND PROJECTS FROM THE FRAME FRONT CROSSMEMBER. IF WELD BREAKS YOU LOSE YOUR AXLE.



VIRGIN

-PERFECT STOCK CONDITION.


I'VE GOT A SET OF VIRGIN '32 FENDERS!
ONE DOLLAR WILL BE SENT TO YOU FOR EVERY ORIGINAL HOT ROD TALK' PUBLISHED. SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO CHARLTON COMICS, 400 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK.

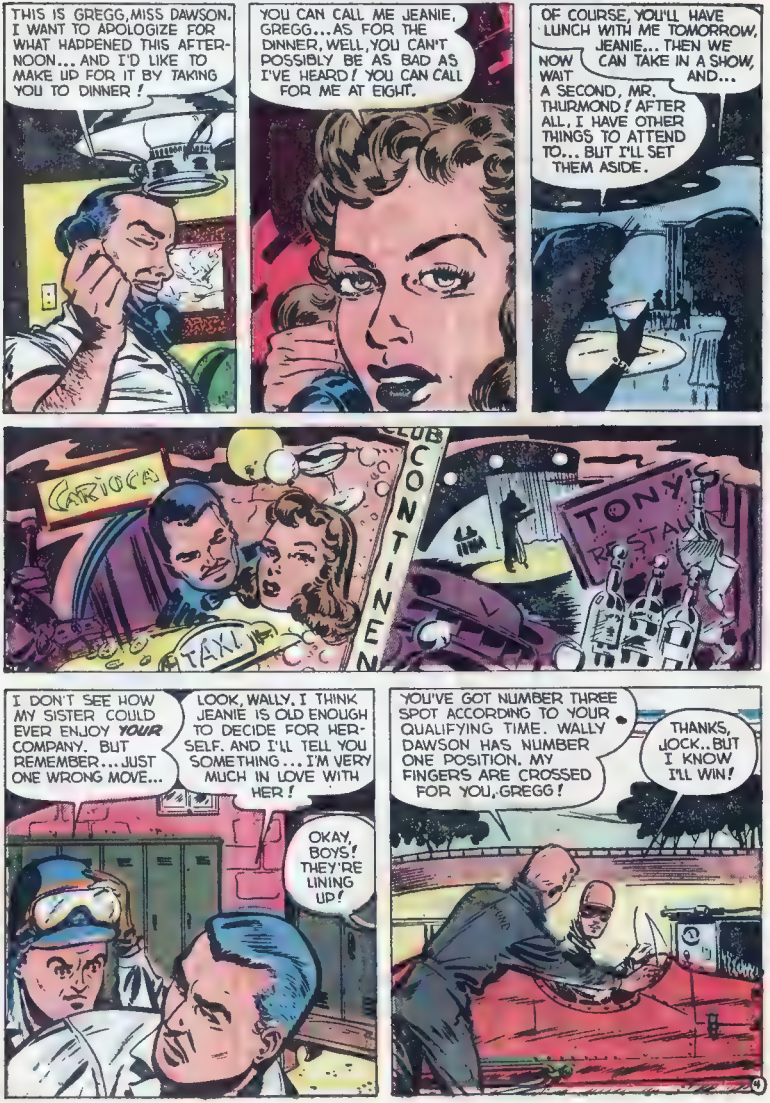
HOT ROCK

IT WAS A RELENTLESS GREGG THURMOND THAT HAD STARTED BURNING RUBBER TO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE AT THE AGE OF 13... THEN WENT ON TO STOCK CAR RACING AT 18 WHEN THE 'DRAGS' PROVIDED NO COMPETITION. EACH YEAR FOUND HIM AT THE TOP OF THE 'TIME' AND 'POINT' LISTS. HE TRIED THE MIDGETS FOR A WHILE UNTIL CIRCLING THE TRACK WITH THE BUNTING BECAME A DULL ROUTINE. NOW HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE NEXT CONQUERABLE FIELD... SPRINT CARS! THIS WAS GREGG THURMOND, THE UNBEATABLE... GREGG THURMOND, THE **HOT ROCK !**

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

IT WAS JUST BEFORE HE WENT INTO THE BIG CAR FIELD THAT HIS WINNINGS BOUGHT ONE OF THE LARGEST TOOL AND DIE FIRMS IN THE EAST. HIS VISCIOUS DESIRE TO BE TOP DOG IN ANYTHING HE UNDERTOOK HAD HIS CLOSE FRIEND AND MECHANIC, JOCK WHITE, IN A DESPAIRING STATE...
JUST HOW MUCH MORE COULD YOU WANT NOW, GREGG?
TO WIN THE CLASSIC AT INDIANAPOLIS!
YOU'RE THE BEST MECHANIC AND CREW CAPTAIN IN THE FIELD, JOCK.. BUT YOU JUST LACK DRIVE! NO AMBITION!
OKAY! OKAY!
GREGG ACQUIRED ONE OF THE BEST ENGINEERED CARS CURTIS EVER BUILT AND HIS REPUTATION CONTINUED AS A RECKLESS WINNER IN ALL COMPETITIVE RUNS...
NATURALLY, I'M GLAD YOU WON, GREGG.. BUT TWO GUYS SPUN OUT INTO A HOSPITAL WHEN YOU CUT THEM OFF ON THE TURN.
..AND?
I'M A PRETTY HARD GUY.. IN THIS RACKET YOU HAVE TO BE! BUT I'VE STILL GOT A CONSCIENCE!
C'MON. I'LL BUY YOU A COUPLE OF DRINKS. YOU'LL FEEL BETTER TOMORROW!

WELL, DON'T TELL ME A GORGEOUS GAL LIKE YOU PALS AROUND WITH LOWLY SPEED JOCKEYS! MY NAME'S GREGG THURMOND...
BUT SHE WOULDN'T CARE FOR THE LIKES OF YOU, THURMOND!
THAT'S WALLY'S SISTER, GREGG! BETTER STAY AWAY FROM HER..SHE'S A NICE KID!
DO TELL? THEY'RE ALL NICE KIDS!
WHY YOU...
POW
AWRIGHT! CUT IT, YOU TWO!
OKAY, KID! I'M NOT FINISHING THIS FIGHT BECAUSE I'M AFTER SOMETHING...BETTER.


THIS IS GREGG, MISS DAWSON. I WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT HADDENED THIS AFTERNOON... AND I'D LIKE TO MAKE UP FOR IT BY TAKING YOU TO DINNER!
YOU CAN CALL ME JEANIE, GREGG... AS FOR THE DINNER, WELL, YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY BE AS BAD AS I'VE HEARD! YOU CAN CALL FOR ME AT EIGHT.
OF COURSE, YOU'LL HAVE LUNCH WITH ME TOMORROW, JEANIE... THEN WE CAN TAKE IN A SHOW, AND...
NOW WAIT A SECOND, MR. THURMOND! AFTER ALL, I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO ATTEND TO... BUT I'LL SET THEM ASIDE.
CARIOCA
CLUB CONTINEN
TONY'S
RESTAU
TAXI
I DON'T SEE HOW MY SISTER COULD EVER ENJOY YOUR COMPANY. BUT REMEMBER... JUST ONE WRONG MOVE...
LOOK, WALLY, I THINK JEANIE IS OLD ENOUGH TO DECIDE FOR HERSELF. AND I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING... I'M VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH HER!
OKAY, BOYS! THEY'RE LINING UP!
YOU'VE GOT NUMBER THREE SPOT ACCORDING TO YOUR QUALIFYING TIME. WALLY DAWSON HAS NUMBER ONE POSITION. MY FINGERS ARE CROSSED FOR YOU, GREGG!
THANKS, JOCK.. BUT I KNOW I'LL WIN!

THE EAR SPLITTING THUNDER OF UNMUFFLED MOTORS FILLED THE AIR AS THE GREEN FLAG FLASHED DOWN...

ON THE 107TH LAP, GREGG IN THIRD PLACE IN NUMBER SEVEN PULLED OUT ON THE STRAIGHTAWAY AND CAME ABREAST OF WALLY DAWSON WHO WAS LEADING THE FIELD..

TAKE A BACK SEAT, SONNY, AND WATCH HOW A WINNER DRIVES.

WHA..?

THROOOMM

HE'S GOT A FAST JOB THERE! I'VE GOT TO TAKE THE INSIDE AND PASS HIM! I'VE GOT TO!

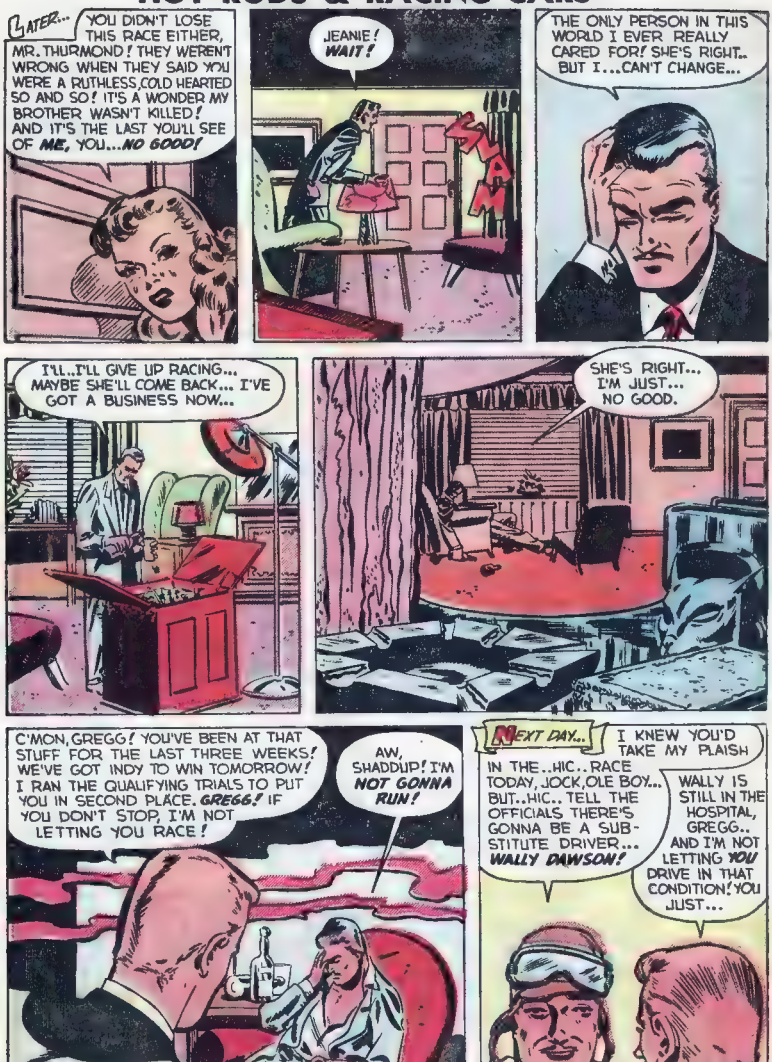
FOURTEEN MORE LAPS TO GO AND HE'S STILL ONE LAP AHEAD OF ME! HERE'S WHERE I BREAK OUT OF THE TURN AHEAD OF HIM AND CUT ON THE INSIDE!

WALLY AND GREGG SKIDDED AROUND THE FAR TURN NOSE TO TAIL WITH DAWSON IN THE LEAD..

BUT GREGG TROMPED HIS ACCELERATOR AND ACCIDENTALLY NUDGED WALLY'S TAIL A SPLIT SECOND BEFORE DAWSON GUNNED HIS MOTOR...

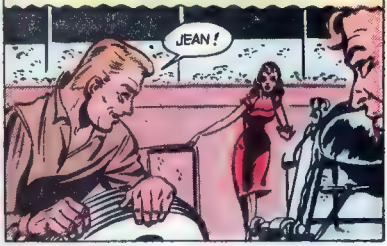
WHAM

AND IT WAS A SELF-ASSURED AND HAPPY GREGG THURMOND THAT AGAIN WHEELED INTO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE FOR THE TROPHY...


LATER... YOU DIDN'T LOSE THIS RACE EITHER, MR. THURMOND! THEY WEREN'T WRONG WHEN THEY SAID YOU WERE A RUTHLESS, COLD HEARTED SO AND SO! IT'S A WONDER MY BROTHER WASN'T KILLED! AND IT'S THE LAST YOU'LL SEE OF ME, YOU...NO GOOD!
JEANIE! WAIT!
SLAM
THE ONLY PERSON IN THIS WORLD I EVER REALLY CARED FOR! SHE'S RIGHT.. BUT I...CAN'T CHANGE...
I'LL..I'LL GIVE UP RACING... MAYBE SHE'LL COME BACK... I'VE GOT A BUSINESS NOW...
SHE'S RIGHT... I'M JUST... NO GOOD.
C'MON, GREGG! YOU'VE BEEN AT THAT STUFF FOR THE LAST THREE WEEKS! WE'VE GOT INDY TO WIN TOMORROW! I RAN THE QUALIFYING TRIALS TO PUT YOU IN SECOND PLACE. GREGG! IF YOU DON'T STOP, I'M NOT LETTING YOU RACE!
AW, SHADDUP! I'M NOT GONNA RUN!
NEXT DAY...
I KNEW YOU'D TAKE MY PLAISH IN THE..HIC.. RACE TODAY, JOCK, OLE BOY... BUT..HIC.. TELL THE OFFICIALS THERE'S GONNA BE A SUBSTITUTE DRIVER... WALLY DAWSON!
WALLY IS STILL IN THE HOSPITAL, GREGG.. AND I'M NOT LETTING YOU DRIVE IN THAT CONDITION! YOU JUST...

HOT RODS & RACING CARS

GREGG TOOK OFF AFTER MAKING AN OFFICIAL SUBSTITUTION TO WALLY DAWSON AS DRIVER.. AND WHEN THE GREEN FLAG CAME DOWN, HE JUST HELD THE ACCELERATOR TO THE FLOOR UNTIL HE'D LAPPED THE FIELD THREE TIMES. THE HOURS TICKED BY.. THEN WITH ONLY FIVE MORE LAPS TO GO...

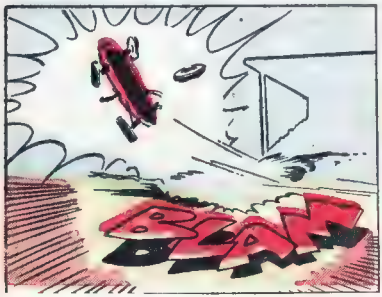


HELLO, JOCK! I HEARD GREGG HAD GONE TO PIECES AFTER I LEFT HIM..I GUESS I DID, TOO.. THAT'S WHY I'M BACK. I REALLY LOVE THE GUY!

HE ONLY CAME IN FOR GAS SO THAT HE COULD MAKE TIME AND BE AHEAD OF THE OTHERS, BUT THOSE TIRES AREN'T GOING TO HOLD UP MUCH LONGER! THE CASINGS ARE ABOUT TO FALL OFF NOW!

THEN.. IF HE DOESN'T COME IN FOR A TIRE CHANGE SOON HE'LL BE KILLED! OH, JOCK! WHY IS HE DOING THIS.. AND UNDER MY BROTHER'S NAME!

THE WHITE FLAG WENT UP SIGNALING ONE MORE LAP...THEN THE CHECKERED BANNER FLUTTERED..GREGG WHIZZED BY AND..



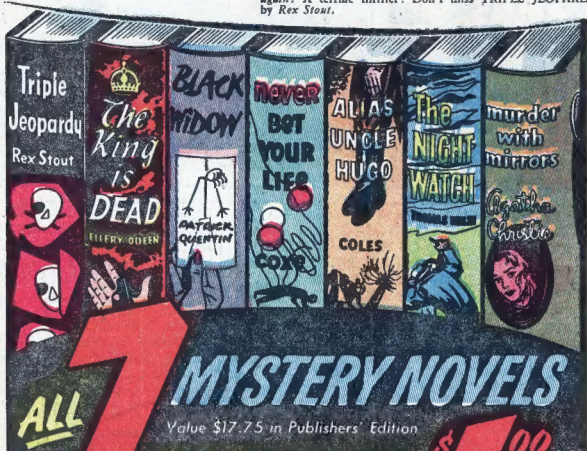
I KNOW I LOOK LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A PYRAMID, JEANIE, BUT HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MARRIED TO A DULL EXECUTIVE AND RAISE A FAMILY?

DON'T PUT THE ALKY AND WRENCHES AWAY, JOCK. HE DIDN'T SAY WHAT HE'D BE DOING WEEKENDS.. AND IF I KNOW GREGG, THE THURMOND FAMILY IS GOING TO BE IN THE PITS EVERY SUNDAY!

"I killed that Cop!"

. . . said the **SCANDAL-HUNGRY BRUNETTE.** Was she lying? Was she "screwy"? Or was she really guilty?

Janet Stahl was the fanciest-looking manicurist on Manhattan Island and . . . and the craziest, too! She "confessed" that SHE killed the cop—because he made a pass at her. Was she lying just to get her name in the papers? Or was she telling the truth? NERO WOLFE has to find out fast—*before murder strikes again!* A terrific thriller! Don't miss TRIPLE JEOPARDY by *Rex Stout.*



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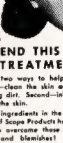

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Physicians prescribe two ways to help control skin eruptions: First—clean the skin and clear the pores of clogging dirt. Second—inhibit the excessive oiliness of the skin.

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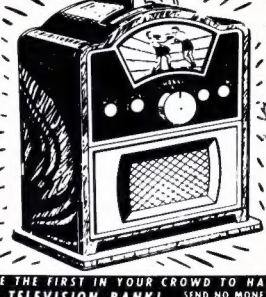

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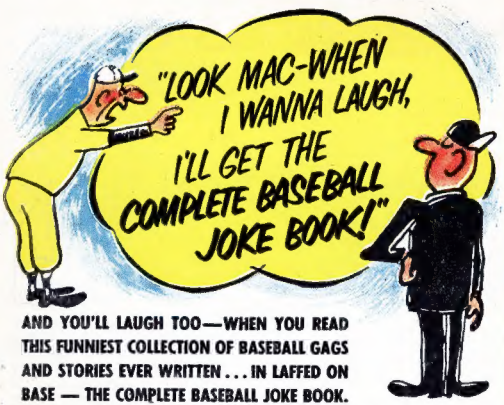

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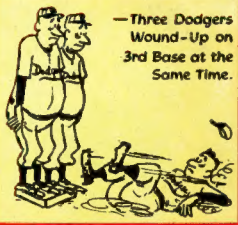

—Three Dodgers Wound-Up on 3rd Base at the Same Time.

OR WHEN . . .

—Babe Herman Got Conked on the Head Chasing a Fly Ball?

OR WHEN . . .

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